

## CORBIN TESTIFIES.

Camp Alger Was Located Against His Orders.

## MILES MADE NO OBJECTION.

Declaration of War Caught War Department Napping. Miles Wanted to March Clear Through Cuba and Take 50,000 Prisoners.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Adjutant-General Corbin was the first witness before the War Investigating Committee today and was questioned regarding Camp Alger.

He testified that the removal of Camp Alger was dictated by the Secretary of War himself, and that its original establishment was recommended by Captain Starbuck of General Miles' staff. He, General Corbin, had said at the time that it could not be a good camp ground, because there was no sufficient range for rifle practice. He had understood from the Secretary of War that General Miles had something to do with its selection.

DID NOT INTERFERE.

"Did General Miles protest against or do anything against the selection of the camp," he was asked.

"Not to my knowledge," was the answer.

General Corbin added that he did not know the reasons for the discontinuance of the camp.

When asked when he first seriously apprehended there would be hostilities, General Corbin said he might say he did not seriously contemplate war until it was a fact, for he had hoped to the last moment that it would be averted. On April 10 the army, for one of its size, he said, better equipped, better clothed, better fed or with a better moral than our regular army at that time. He said prior to the war there had been no complaints of refrigerated or canned beef and that they were used by the armies of the world and in commerce. It was no new experiment.

DEPARTMENT UNPREPARED.

"Seriously speaking," said General Corbin, "I do not think the War Department contemplated war until it was declared by Congress and appropriations were available. Of course, the possibilities were thought of, but there was no general preparation except, so far as the army was concerned, to meet the possibilities that confronted it."

"Do you know anything about General Miles' dispatch of June 24, I think, a letter to the Secretary of War, in which he proposed to have the army march clear through Cuba and take 50,000 prisoners and work them and treat them kindly?" General Corbin was asked.

"Yes sir," was the answer, "that letter was received and did not receive the approval of the Secretary of War." GENERAL MILES AND THE PLAN.

"I would ask you whether the plan of campaign against Santiago as adopted was recommended by General Miles."

"No sir, I do not think the recommendations made in that letter of May 27 were approved," was General Corbin's reply.

General Corbin said the matter of medical supplies and medical officers was left to the Surgeon-General and that the President, in every case, would not listen to appointing a medical officer until recommended by the Surgeon-General on the ground of fitness.

General Corbin was asked how it happened, if there was anything wrong at Chickamauga and Camp Alger, that the Inspector-General did not report it.

CONTRACTS WERE HONEST.

He replied that he did not see any of the Inspector's reports from Chickamauga. He said he knew of no contracts during the war that were influenced by anything that was not entirely honest and fair to the government and that there was no instance of favoritism in making appointments.

"How do you account," asked General Dodge, "for all these complaints against the various departments?"

"To a want of realization of the severities of war,"

The commission then adjourned until tomorrow.

## QUAKER CITY A-SNEEZE.

Violent epidemic of the Grip. 30,000 Philadelphians Have It.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.—It is estimated that between 25,000 and 30,000 persons in this city are suffering from grip and doctors report the epidemic on the increase. At the board of health today six deaths were reported to have occurred within the last twenty-four hours directly due to grip and twelve other deaths were traced indirectly to the same cause.

All the hospitals have an unusually large number of grip patients and in several instances the sufferers have lost their reason and have to be strapped to their beds. Of 140,000 school children nearly 10,000 are sick at home. City councils could barely raise a quorum today there were so many absentees from grip.

The reports received from eastern Pennsylvania and south New Jersey point to an epidemic of the disease in those sections.

Crooked Beer Spilled.

(By Telegraph.)

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 22.—Radford, Va., reports the return to that place of a posse of revenue officers from a raid on moonshiners on the North Carolina border. Seven stills were cut up, thousands of gallons of beer destroyed and three moonshiners captured.

## LOW XMAS HOLIDAY RATES.

On December 21 to 24 inclusive, and 29 to 31 inclusive, the M. and M. T. Co. will sell over their line tickets at greatly reduced rates on account of the Xmas holidays. Tickets limited to Jan. 4th.

For further information and full particulars, apply to L. C. Saunders, Agent.

## MRS. BOKKINS ON THE STAND.

Her Testimony a Continuity of Denials. The Time Progresses.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22.—The defense of Mrs. Cordelia Botkins, charged with the murder of Mrs. John P. Dunning, opened today, but the progress made in the breaking down of the case of the prosecution was very slight.

George M. Tyrell was the principal witness. He, however, was so uncertain in his testimony, and contradicted himself so often, that he did the defense very little good. He testified that he had visited Mrs. Botkins on Sunday afternoon, July 31st, between the hours of 3 and 5 o'clock, and treated her for headache. This is the time and date sworn to by Misses Henry and Dilmars, of Haas' candy store, when they sold Mrs. Botkins a box of chocolate bonbons. Dr. Tyrell, for some reason, made no entry on his visit book and rendered no bill to Mrs. Botkins for services.

THE DOCTOR WAS VAGUE.

He could not specify the time of his visit better than "between 3 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon." When questioned regarding arsenical poisoning, the attorney for the prosecution made it very clear that Dr. Tyrell knew little if anything of arsenic.

John P. Dunning was recalled by permission, and asked if he had told Mrs. Botkins that his wife and daughter had taken up their residence in Dover, Del. He replied that he had mentioned the fact several times.

Dr. W. F. McNutt testified that the only reliable way to prove arsenical poisoning was by an autopsy.

DEFENDANT ON THE STAND.

Mrs. Botkins was called on the stand at a late hour this afternoon.

She told of her acquaintance with Dunning, denying many of his statements. She also denied much of the testimony of Lizzie Livernash, a reporter, who testified to the hysterical condition of Mrs. Botkins when informed of Mrs. Dunning's death, and of several incriminating admissions made by Mrs. Botkins in interviews with her.

She denied ever having purchased candy of Haas, or that she ever purchased a handkerchief of the City of Paris. She will continue her testimony tomorrow.

## A BAD MAN OF THE SIXTH.

Virginia Negro Runs Up Against a Georgia Revolver and is Killed.

(By Telegraph.)

MACON, GA., Dec. 22.—Private Turner, of the Sixth Virginia Regiment, was shot and almost instantly killed by O. A. Throver, a street car conductor, this afternoon. Turner boarded Throver's car very drunk and used the vilest language imaginable in the presence of ladies. Throver pulled him out of the car to the rear platform and kept him there until a lady got off.

While Throver was assisting the lady off, the negro kicked him several times and applied more vile epithets. A negro on a trailer car then called Turner, but after a short talk he returned to Throver's car and, with a knife in his hand, swore that he would cut Throver's head off, advancing upon him at the time. As he stepped on the platform, Throver fired, the bullet striking the negro in the mouth. He died in fifteen minutes.

A crowd of negro soldiers and civilians soon gathered and swore vengeance on Throver and all street car conductors. One conductor was chased several blocks by the negroes. Guards have been placed on all cars on the line leading to the negro camp tonight, and the camp is under strong guard to prevent an outbreak on the part of the negro soldiers.

## TO PROSECUTE LYNCHERS.

Negro Convention Called to Raise Funds for That and Other Purposes.

(By Telegraph.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A call was issued today by Bishop Alexander Walters, president of the National Afro-American Council, for a convention of colored people, under the auspices of the council at Washington on December 29. All colored organizations having for their object the amelioration of the condition of the Afro-American race are invited to send delegates. The objects of the conference as announced are: "To raise funds for the prosecution of lynching parties and to test the constitutionality of the laws in some Southern States disfranchising negroes; to resist political and business discrimination against the negro; to secure the better treatment of convicts; to secure federal appropriations for school funds of the Southern States; to encourage industrial and higher education; and to recommend a healthy emigration from terror-ridden sections of our land to our more law-abiding sections."

Dr. Hoge is Dying.

(By Telegraph.)

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 22.—All hope of the recovery of Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D. D., has been abandoned by his physician, Dr. Hunter McGuire. He is sinking rapidly, and though he may live several days, he may die at any hour.

Ordered to Cuba.

(By Telegraph.)

MACON, GA., Dec. 22.—Orders were received here today for Major General John C. Bates and division headquarters to proceed to Charleston and take transport for Cuba. The order also directed that the sixth Ohio Regiment now at Knoxville, Tenn., proceed to Charleston and sail on the same transport not later than December 26. It is believed here that the rest of the First Army Corps under General Wilson will follow in a few days.

Drink Old Valley Whiskey. Extra special quality. There is none better. Newport News Wine and Liquor Co., Sole Agents.

## CUBA AND PORTORICO NOW MADE PUBLIC

Special Commissioner Porter Submits His Report.

## AN INTERESTING DOCUMENT

Sanitary Department Removes Causes of Ill Health in Cuban Cities. Abuses Corrected. Roads Improved. Suggestions as to Taxes.

(By Telegraph.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Robert P. Porter, special commissioner for the United States to Cuba and Porto Rico, has returned from Santiago and submitted his report to the Secretary of the Treasury. While in Porto Rico, Mr. Porter held public hearings, and all persons interested in the welfare of the island were invited to submit statements and give oral testimony. The Chamber of Commerce, representing the commercial and industrial interests of the province, responded. The machinery of the military government, Mr. Porter says, is running with a fair degree of smoothness and the men responsible for it understand their business thoroughly. The disagreeable smells of the typical Cuban city, his report says, are less pronounced in Santiago, while whitewash, lime wash, fresh paints and all sorts of disinfectants have deodorized the surrounding atmosphere and made the old town quite habitable.

STREETS NOW CLEAN.

The streets are no longer used as sewers, and the unhappy individual who violates the law and escapes the lash of the sanitary commission's whip, is compelled to work on the streets.

The official in charge of this work, Major Barbours, with 126 men, dressed in spotless white, and thirty-two good United States mule teams and carts, having dug out from the streets of Santiago the filth of ages, is now able to keep them absolutely clean. Every day, by the aid of petroleum, the garbage of the city is burned. The work of sanitation is not confined to the streets, but extends to the dwelling houses, shops and buildings of all kinds. To accomplish this, however, the doors of some houses had to be smashed in, and people making sewers of the thoroughfares were publicly horsewhipped in the streets.

YIELDED TO CLEANLINESS.

The campaign has ended in a complete surrender to the sanitary authorities, and the people of Santiago, regardless of class, have had their first object lesson in the new order of things inaugurated by the war. Several important streets have been repaired; all the public buildings have been thoroughly cleaned, the work extending even to the opera house. The law courts, which were abolished when General Shafter took the city, have been reorganized. The Supreme Court, the report continues, is composed of carefully selected Cuban judges, the appointees nominated wholly on account of legal attainments. In the same manner local government has been restored and native Mayors and officials appointed, the only requirement being that persons accepting such office shall take the oath recognizing the military occupation of the island by the United States, but in no way committing them to any future form of government.

WHERE TAXES WENT.

The Spanish, when in possession of Cuba, not only assumed control of the judiciary, but of the municipal government, the larger portion of the taxes raised for municipal purposes being diverted, with the other revenues, into channels, which, says the report, either led to Spain or into Spanish pockets.

Mr. Porter advises that these taxes hereafter be used exclusively for local purposes, and as far as may be deemed practicable, that they be collected and disbursed by properly constituted local authorities. The rural districts of Santiago have been so depopulated that it would be impossible to collect taxes over and above those needed for the bare necessities of the schools, for the poor and possibly sums to improve the sanitary conditions.

DAWN OF PROSPERITY.

The dawn of prosperity, however, should be the signal for inaugurating work on the country roads. The money expended on roads, whether from the general funds of the island or local budgets, would come back a hundred-fold, it is stated, and would make Santiago one of the richest sugar, coffee and fruit-growing districts in the West Indies.

Now that the customs tariff has been disposed of, Mr. Porter recommends that an immediate scheme be prepared for levying and collecting internal revenue for the entire island. The question of separating these taxes from purely municipal taxes should be considered also. The large amount of delinquencies during the last three years, which amounted to about \$6,000,000, was, of course, due to the war.

The patrons of the Newport News Light and Water Company are hereby notified that the supply will again be shut off, at 10 o'clock Thursday night, the 22nd instant, for the purpose of making connections at the pumping station, and will be turned on again about 4 o'clock the following morning. Newport News Light and Water Co., Dec. 22. By L. B. Manville, Supt.

Indications Point to This Cause for the Accident to the Massachusetts.

(By Telegraph.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The battleship Massachusetts, which is in the timber dry dock at the navy yard, Brooklyn, was entirely uncovered today. From a hole in the bottom of the Massachusetts several long splinters of wood were taken. This is thought at the navy yard to indicate that the ship struck the wreck of the barge which sunk off Governor's Island some time ago and which at extremely low water has been a menace to navigation ever since.

The examination of the battleship disclosed three large dents in the port side of the vessel forward. One of the officials told a reporter that the injuries were much more serious than had been anticipated. The three plates, he said, would have to be removed and replaced with new ones. It was his opinion that the vessel would have to be put out of commission for the present.

Ethel Probably Lost.

(By Telegraph.)

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The Paris correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "The government has decided to hand the Dreyfus secret dossier to the Court of Cassation. It will also be communicated to Madame Dreyfus and to Mornard, the counsel for Dreyfus."

## TWO LETTERS HERETOFORE WITHHELD BY WAR DEPARTMENT.

Col. Roosevelt's Story as Told in Official Communications to Gen. Wood. Complaint of Lack of Proper Food Supplies and Transportation.

## ROUGH RIDERS SUFFERED

THE MEN SUFFERED.

For three or four days, until the tenth, we lay in our lines, while the truce continued. We had continually to work at additional bomb proofs and at the trenches and, as we had no proper supply of food and utterly inadequate medical facilities, the men suffered a good deal. The officers chipped tobacco, purchased beans, tomatoes and sugar for the men so that they might have some relief from the bacon and hard-tack. With a great deal of difficulty, we got them coffee. As for the sick and wounded, they suffered so in the hospitals, when sent to the rear, for lack of food and attention, that we found it best to keep them at the front and give them such care as our own doctors could. As I mentioned in my previous letter, thirteen of our wounded came up to join us as soon as their condition allowed them to walk; most of the worst cases were ultimately sent to the States.

## BOMBARDMENT RE-OPENED.

On the tenth the truce was at an end and the bombardment re-opened. As far as our lines were concerned, it was on the Spanish part very feeble. We suffered no losses and speedily got the fire from their trenches in our front completely under. On the 11th, we were moved three-quarters of a mile to the right, the truce again being on. Nothing happened here except that we continued to watch and do our best to get the men, especially the sick, properly fed, and having no transportation and being able to get hardly any through the regular channels, we used anything we could find, captured Spanish horses, abandoned mules, which had been shot, but which were not cured diminutive skinny ponies, purchased from the Cubans, etc. By these means, and by the exertions of the officers, we were able from time to time to get supplies of beans, sugar, tomatoes and even oat meal, while from the States we got people and invaluable loads of rice, corn meal, etc.

LACK OF FOOD TELLING.

All of this was of the utmost consequence, not only for the sick, but also for the well, as the lack of proper food was telling terribly on the men. It was utterly impossible to get them clothes and shoes; those they had were in many cases literally dropping to pieces. On the 17th the city surrendered. On the 18th we shifted camp to here, the best camp we have had, but the march hither under the noon day sun told very heavily on our men, weakened by underfeeding and overwork, and the next morning 123 cases were reported to the doctor, and I now have but half of the 600 men with which I landed four weeks ago. It is for duty, and these are the best of it, to do anything like the work they could do then.

## LEFT MUCH BEHIND.

As we had but one wagon, the change necessitated leaving much of my staff behind, with only the lightest of my staff, and with scanty shelter and scanty food for the most of the officers and many of the men. Only the possession of the improvised pack train alluded to above saved us from being worse. Yesterday I sent in a detail of six officers and 24 men to see if they could not purchase or make some arrangements for a supply of proper food and proper clothing for the men, even if we had to pay for it out of our own pockets. Our suffering has been due primarily to lack of transportation and of proper food or sufficient clothing and of medical supplies. We should now have wagon sheets for tentage.

Very respectfully,  
THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

## STRUCK SUNKEN WEE EK.

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## DESPODENT, SHE SUICIDED.

Mysterious Woman Found Dead in a Columbus, Ohio, Hotel.

(By Telegraph.)

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 22.—A well-dressed, refined-looking woman went to the Chittenden Hotel last night about 9 o'clock, where she registered as "Mrs. Ashton, of Pittsburg." She was assigned a room, in which she was found dead today, having committed suicide by taking carbolic acid. Two envelopes were found in the room—one with money to pay the hotel, and the other addressed to the Chief of Police, containing the following note:

"My husband having died and left me alone, I do not care to live. There are \$77 in my purse in my corset waist. Bury me anywhere."

The note was printed with the evident purpose of disguising the handwriting and all marks had been removed from her carbolic bottle. The deceased appears to have been from 30 to 35 years old. The body was taken to the morgue.

## TOO OFFICERS PROVOST.

Fitz Lee Calls Down Major Harrison, Who Raised the Flag Without Orders.

(By Telegraph.)

HAVANA, Dec. 22.—Major Russell Harrison, the provost marshal, who, on Tuesday, raised the Stars and Stripes over Fort Atares without orders and in contravention of the promise of the United States evacuation commission, that no American flags should be raised in Havana or its suburbs until January 1, was today formally reprimanded by Major General Lee and instructed to lower the flag. Lieutenant Lee reported a few hours later to headquarters that the flag had been lowered.

Nevertheless at the hour of filing this dispatch, 4:30 P. M., it is still flying on a tall staff over the famous fort, plainly visible from the harbor and city.

Major General Lee, having received a cable dispatch from General Alger, saying that the Secretary of War understood that there were thousands of persons starving in Havana, and directing him to feed them "without delay," immediately ordered Lieutenant Colonel Wood to distribute rations and to make systematic efforts to feed the helpless, carefully avoiding any waste.

## HUNDREDS SUFFERING.

There are hundreds in Havana, who though not actually starving, are in a deplorable state of weakness and disease, the effects of the cruel reconcentration policy. They need hospital treatment, which is not always available. Much of the wretchedness is due to the deplorable condition of the tenements. Every day or so the relief distributors come upon dead bodies, terribly emaciated.

The Cuban Colonel Raoul Arange, with 600 Cuban horsemen, paraded in Jesus Del Monte today and then marched out again to camp.

The United States transport Minnesota, which left Savannah for Cuba, on December 19 with the Forty-ninth Regiment arrived here this afternoon.

Today the Spanish transports Ciudad de Cadiz and Neustria sailed for Spain, the former with 1,286 men and officers, bound for Santander, and the latter with 1,033 men for Cadiz.

## HAAS ELECTION CASE.

Judge Hancock Refuses to Grant the Mandamus Asked for.

(By Telegraph.)

NORFOLK, VA., Dec. 22.—Judge Hancock today denied the application of Jacob Haas for a mandamus to compel the judges of election to compel him a certificate of election, his name having been written on three ballots.

Haas' remedy is in the legislature, which is the sole judge of the qualification of its members.

No election for membership in that body was held here, and the three supporters of Haas had no right, it appears, to write "For the legislature" on an official ballot. No notice was ever given the clerk of the court of his candidacy.

## G. U. SER HORNET OVERDUE.

Left Hampton Roads for Wilmington on Tuesday and Has Not Been Heard from.

(By Telegraph.)

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 22.—The United States cruiser Hornet, which left Hampton Roads for Wilmington, Tuesday afternoon, manned by detachments of the naval reserve from Wilmington and Southport, has not yet reached Southport, and is now about thirty hours overdue at that point. Nothing has been heard from her since she sailed from Hampton Roads.

It is believed that she has met with no accident, but is fog bound at some point on the coast. Navigator Morse, of the naval reserve, is a careful and skilled pilot, thoroughly familiar with the coast and it is supposed that the ship has made a harbor at some point remote from telegraph stations.

## NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY.

Senator Hoar and Others Speak at the Sixty-ninth Annual Banquet.

(By Telegraph.)

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 22.—The seventy-ninth annual banquet of the New England Society was given at the Charleston hotel here tonight. The leading speakers of the evening were Senator George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts, who responded to "Fathers' Day," Senator John L. McLaurin, of South Carolina, who responded to "Our Country," and the Hon. Joseph B. Cummings, of Georgia, who responded to "The Mayflower."

The banquet was a most elaborate and brilliant function and there were seated at the tables one hundred guests. Senator Hoar's address was largely of an historical nature and touched but lightly upon the issues of the present day.

Messrs. McLaurin and Cummings, the theory of expansion just now occurring, however, took occasion to declare in more or less pronounced terms against the theory of expansion just now occupying so much public attention.

Buy your Whiskies and Wines for cooking and medicinal purposes at Newport News Wine and Liquor Co.'s. dec 15-1f

## WAS DRAWN BY HAY

Virginia Congressman Drafted the Army Bill Substitute.

## PROVIDES FOR 30,000 TROOPS

Main Contention is That if Standing Army Were Increased to 100,000 It Would be Impossible to Reduce it in the Future.

(By Telegraph.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The bill for the increase of the regular army which the minority of the House Committee on Military Affairs will offer as a substitute for the Hull bill, was drawn by Representative Hay, of Virginia, and is now in the hands of the War Department, where an estimate is being made of the cost of such a military establishment as it provides. The bill as drawn, provides for a standing army of 30,000 men, 12,000 artillery, 8,000 infantry, 6,000 cavalry and engineer, ordnance, signal corps and general staff.

## FIFTY THOUSAND TROOPS.

To meet the existing exigency for troops in Porto Rico, Cuba, the Philippines, Hawaii, and the Ladrones, the bill provides that the President may issue a proclamation for fifty thousand additional volunteer troops to be enlisted for two years. The latter troops are to be commanded by officers appointed by the President. The organization is to be the same in the regular army, the strength of the different arms of the service to be determined by the President. The present volunteers are to be mustered out within sixty days after the passage of the act, but volunteer organizations now in the service shall be given preference for enlistment in the new volunteer army if they so elect within fifteen days.

## WILL BE FILED AT ONCE.

Mr. Hay will file the bill, the minority report on the Hull bill tomorrow with the clerk of the House. The main contention the report will make for the minority plan, as against the Hull bill for a standing army of 100,000, is that the future of the Philippines and Cuba are yet undetermined, but that if the standing army is increased to 100,000 it would be almost impossible, no matter what may happen in the future to reduce it. The report will say that a standing army of 100,000 men will cost the people of the United States \$165,000,000. This added to the \$145,000,000 for pensions will bring the cost of the military establishment up to \$310,000,000, the largest charge in the world for a military establishment.

The naval establishment would bring the total up many millions more.

Mr. Hay estimates that a standing army of 30,000 with 5,000 additional volunteers would cost \$100,000,000, but this charge might continue only for two years.

## SWORD FOR PHILEY.

People of Three States Pay Tribute to Valor.

(By Telegraph.)

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.—Rear Admiral Schley was tonight the recipient of a handsome and costly sword, scabbard and belt, presented to him in behalf of the people of this city and other cities in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware who contributed to a fund established for the purpose.

The ceremony took place in the Temple Baptist church and Colonel A. K. McClure presided. The formal presentation was made by Miss Rena MacNeill, the 15-year-old sister of Private Harry MacNeill, of the Marine Corps, who distinguished himself during the battle of Santiago by climbing upon the muzzle of one of the cruiser Brooklyn's guns during a heavy fire and removing a loaded shell which had become fastened in the breach.

The admiral in accepting the gift, thanked the people and said:

"Let me hope with you, that in God's providence it may never be drawn without reason, but if it ever should be so, let it be drawn, it will never be sheathed except in your greater honor."

The sword, scabbard and belt represented a cost of \$4,200. The blade is of fine Damascus steel, appropriately decorated with diamonds, and other precious stones.

## LAST TROOPS FOR HAVANA.

Will Eat Their Christmas Dinner in the Cuban Capital.

(By Telegraph.)

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 22.—The third and last battalion of the Tenth Infantry, United States Artillery, sailed from this port for Cuba on the Ward line steamer Saratoga this afternoon. The detachment of the Tenth was 443 men strong and was commanded by Captain Duggan, U. S. A. It came from Huntsville, Ala., and arrived here early this morning.

The Saratoga was already in the dock and the work of loading the equipment and baggage of the battalion began with daylight. By 2 o'clock this afternoon the steamer was ready to begin its voyage. The men will take their Christmas dinner in Havana and they were rather pleased than otherwise at the prospect of doing so.

Dossier Goes to the Court.

(By Telegraph.)

CHERRYVILLE, ME., Dec. 22.—It is believed that the schooner Ethel, of Mill Bridge, 141 tons, was lost with all hands in the November gale. She sailed from Atlantic City for Norfolk, on November 26 and nothing has since been heard from her. The master was James E. Leighton, of Mill Bridge.

The crew consisted of the mate, name unknown, John Norton, of Mill Bridge, and Samuel Pickett, of Harrington.

X-quisite X-mas X-hits of neckties, hose, suspenders, handkerchiefs, mufflers, gloves, hats, suits and overcoats at Woodward & Womble's. dec22-10c